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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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02/15/2001

Denny Jaeger

4167

1832

7590

06/16/2004

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EXAMINER

LE, BRIAN Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2623

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/785,049

Applicant(s)

JAEGER, DENNY

Examiner

Brian Q Le

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27, 29-50, 95 and 96 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3, 27 and 47 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-26, 29-46, 48-50, 95 and 96 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 February 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2623

Response to Amendment and Arguments

1. Applicant's amendment filed May 10, 2004, has been entered and made of record.
2. Applicant's arguments with regard to claims 1-17, 19-27, 29-50, 95 and 96 have been fully considered, but are not considered persuasive because of the following reasons:

Regarding claim 1, the Applicant argues (page 18) that Yamakawa does not identify vertices in the drawn input because points are not necessarily vertices. However, mathematically points are nodes, which are vertices. The Examiner will continue to interpret in this way **unless the Applicant clearly define in the claim that how the vertices are different then the teaching of Yamakwa mathematically**. Therefore, FIG. 9 and column 7, lines 27-51 of Yamakawa's reference clearly teach this concept. In addition, the Applicant argues (page 18) that Yamakawa does not disclose the concept of Wide Pen Test. **First, the Applicant must need to clearly define the concept of Wide Pen Test in the claim**. Otherwise, one skilled in the art will interpret the Wide Pen Test subjectively. Thus by interpretation, Yamakawa clearly teaches this concept at FIG. 7-9, FIG. 17 and column 9, lines 37-67. The Applicant also argues (on page 19) that Yamakawa does not teach the limitation of Arrow Logic. Again, since the Applicant does not clearly define Arrow Logic in the claim. The Examiner makes a broad interpretation to the claim. To further assist the Applicant with the guidance with claim language interpretations so that the Applicant can add further/more details limitations from the specification to the claims to overcome the prior arts, the Examiner is presenting MPEP, section 2111, Claim Interpretation; Broadest Reasonable Interpretation as follow: "The court explained that "reading a claim in light of the specification, to thereby interpret limitations explicitly recited in the claim, is a quite different thing from reading limitations of the specification into a

Art Unit: 2623

claim,' to thereby narrow the scope of the claim by implicitly adding disclosed limitations which have no express basis in the claim." The court found that applicant was advocating the latter, i.e., the impermissible importation of subject matter from the specification into the claim.). See also *In re Morris*, 127 F.3d 1048, 1054-55, 44 USPQ2d 1023, 1027-28 (Fed. Cir. 1997) (The court held that the PTO is not required, in the course of prosecution, to interpret claims in applications in the same manner as a court would interpret claims in an infringement suit. Rather, the "PTO applies to verbiage of the proposed claims the broadest reasonable meaning of the words in their ordinary usage as they would be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art, taking into account whatever enlightenment by way of definitions or otherwise that may be afforded by the written description contained in applicant's specification.""). **Therefore, the Examiner has the right to make a broad interpretation of all the claiming language until the Applicant further add details/definitions/more limitations to the claiming language (specifically to the claimed terms such as Wide Pen Test and Arrow Logics) to overcome the teaching of prior arts.** The Applicant also argues (bottom of page 19) that Capps does not teach the concept of adding two or more drawing inputs to create an agglomerated input. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Capps teaches an input stroke is a gather of series of straight line segments and this is used to detected the proximity (approximate) the single input/entity (the curved path of the inputted stroke). This is clearly teaches by Capps at column 9, lines 60-67.

For the argument regarding Wide Pen Test of claims 19-23, 27 and 95, please refer to previous discussion of Wide Pen Test.

Art Unit: 2623

Regarding claim 9, the Applicant argues that Capps does not teach the term color in determine agglomeration of two or more drawn inputs. However, the Applicant had amended the claim and thus a new ground of rejection is made.

Regarding claim 50, the Applicant argues that Capps does not teach the concept of “where numeric information can be entered into the pen-based computer system”. Capps discloses this limitation at column 1, lines 48-65. Regarding claim 96, the Applicant argues (page 23) that Capps does not teach the limitation of “maximum total reduction of said predetermined angle threshold is determined by a user-defined parameter”. As indicated in the previous Office Action, the claim 96 recites the limitation “maximum total reduction which is lacked of antecedent basis. Thus, the Examiner made the rejection based on his best interpretations. Thus, not only column 14, lines 3-33 but also column 10, lines 3-30 (user input into a form) teaches this limitation by one skilled in the art’s best interpretation. Regarding claim 29-46, the Applicant argues (page 23) that Meek does not describe any technique for analyzing or identifying a hand drawn entry. The Examiner disagrees, Meeks clearly teaches this at the abstract (method that is visually observing both the handwriting itself ... the handwriting process), FIG. 2A (shows the calculation of handwriting coordinate), FIG. 2B (shows the calculation of speed of handwriting movement), column 1, lines 57-61 and throughout the reference. Regarding arguments of claims 29-35, please refer back to previous explanations. The Applicant must clearly define the claim language or it will be subjected to broad interpretation. Note, the claimed languages such as “Wide Pen Test”, “Golden Clues”, “Arrow Logics” and other by the Applicant may not be disclosed in references used by the Examiner. However, the Applicant did not define a clear definition (rather no definition) in the claim

Art Unit: 2623

language regarding these terms. Therefore, the Examiner has the right to make broad interpretations as indicated by MPEP, Section 2111. Thus to overcome the rejections, the Applicant must further specify these terms and limitations in the claims.

3. Applicant's arguments, see pages 19, second paragraph of the Amendment, filed 05/10/2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 18 under 35 U.S.C 102(e) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Capps U.S. Patent No. 5,583,542.

4. The Applicant ignored all the rejections made by the Examiner, under 35 U.S.C 112. The Applicant did not amend the claim's language to overcome the claims rejections. Appropriate correction is required.

5. The Remarks/Arguments filed by the Applicant on May 10, 2004 were quite unorganized. The Examiner had difficulty understanding the Applicant's arguments with reference to the argued claims. For future Remarks/Arguments, the Applicant is required to clearly state the claim number with respect to the argument that the Applicant is referring to for all the arguments. Unorganized Remarks may result in confusion and thus failure of consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

7. Claims 1-27, 29-50, 95 and 96 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter

Art Unit: 2623

which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claims 1, 9, 10, 11, 15, and 29, the original disclosure of the specification does not disclose the limitation of “**determine the existence and number and angles** of vertices in a line which could be drawn between said points” (emphasis added). The Applicant is invited to show the Examiner the exact page, paragraph, line and FIG. number where is this limitation being disclosed in the original specification.

Also regarding claim 9, the Examiner inviting the Applicant to show the Examiner with respect to **color rules**. The Examiner cannot find the disclosure/teaching of **color rules** in the original disclosure of the specification.

Referring to claim 26, new amended limitation “and thereafter excluding identification of shapes that do not conform to said set of rules regarding **maximum proximate distance** to said another graphic object” is not disclosed in the original specification.

For claim 38, the Examiner also request the Applicant to point out page number, paragraph and line number in the original disclosure that teaches the limitation “receiving each hand drawn entry as a plurality of sequential points”. In addition, the limitation of “**reiterating** said slice step” is not found in the original disclosure.

8. The terms "substantially orthogonal", "substantially non-orthogonal", "substantially all said points", and "magic number values" in claims 32-34, 36-37, 48-50 are relative terms which render the claim indefinite. The term "substantially orthogonal", "substantially non-orthogonal", "substantially all said points", and "magic number values" are not defined by the

Art Unit: 2623

claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

Further elaborations upon these terms are required.

9. Claim 96 recites the limitation "maximum total reduction" on line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

10. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

11. Claim 96 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The limitation "maximum total reduction" was not described in the specification.

Claim Objections

12. Claims 38 and 47 are objected to because these claims are very difficult to understand due to the use of confusing language. Appropriate correction is required. The prior art rejection based on the Examiner's best understanding.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

13. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an

Art Unit: 2623

international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

14. Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-15, 24, 29-43, and 48-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamakawa U.S. Patent No. 6,144,764.

Regarding claim 1, Yamakawa teaches an electronic device that accepts hand drawn entries, a method for recognizing the hand drawn entries (abstract, first 3 lines), comprising the steps of:

Receiving each hand drawing entry as a plurality of sequential points (FIG. 1B);

Determining the existence and number and angles of vertices in a line which could be drawn between said points (column 7, lines 27-51) (FIG. 9).

For claim 2, Yamakawa further teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn wherein said at least one step includes determining the distance between said vertices (FIG. 9).

For claim 4, Yamakawa discloses the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein said at least one step includes performing a test for Golden Clues (an observed analysis of how people tend to drawn object at real time as defined by the specification on pages 41-42) (column 12, lines 3-25).

Regarding claim 5, Yamakawa also discloses the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein said at least one step includes the step of excluding identification of shapes that do not conform to said set of rules (The identification process that only bases on the result of comparison) (abstract).

Also to claim 6, Yamakawa further discloses the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein said at least one step includes excluding identification of shapes that do not

Art Unit: 2623

conform to said set of rules regarding size (the identification process that only bases on the result of comparison and therefore regardless of size) (abstract).

To claim 7, Yamakawa teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries further including a plurality of hand drawn entries, each of said hand drawn entries being analyzed individually (column 2, lines 58-67).

For claim 9-11, 15, and 29, please refer back to claim 1 for further explanation.

For claim 12, Yamakawa also teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries further including the step of carrying out further analytic tests to determine the specific object type (FIG. 16 and FIG. 22).

For claim 13, Yamakawa discloses the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein said at least one step includes determining the angular trend of said plurality of sequential points (FIG. 9 and FIG. 10).

Regarding claim 14, Yamakawa also discloses the method for recognizing hand drawn entries further including the step of excluding identification of shapes that do not conform to said set of rules regarding angular trend (The process of extracting shapes into angular properties and compare with shapes in the dictionary with similar angular rules) (column 8, lines 5-50).

Referring to claim 24, Yamakawa further teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries further including the step of determining the angular orientation of said hand drawn entry with respect to a reference orientation (FIG. 11- FIG. 14) (FIG. 9 and column 7, lines 30-67 and column 8, lines 1-10).

Art Unit: 2623

For claim 30, Yamakawa teaches the method further including the step of determining the existence of a vertex in said portion of said hand drawn entry, and calculating the vertex angle (FIG. 9 and FIG. 10).

Referring to claim 31, Yamakawa also teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein said portion of said hand drawn entry is identified by storing and analyzing time of entry data of said plurality of points (column 12, lines 5-25).

Regarding claim 32, Yamakawa also teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein if a vertex angle in said portion of said hand drawn entry is substantially orthogonal (FIG. 5A – FIG. 5B), said golden clue test provides increased potential for identifying a rectilinear shape (column 7, lines 30-35).

For claim 33, Yamakawa teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein if a vertex angle in said portion of said hand drawn entry is substantially non-orthogonal, said golden clue test provides increased potential for exclusion of all rectilinear shapes (FIG. 9).

For claim 34, Yamakawa discloses the method for recognizing hand drawn wherein if a pair of vertex angle in said portion of said hand drawn entry are substantially orthogonal, proximate, and opposite, said golden clue test provides increased potential for identification of a folder shape (FIG. 9).

Regarding claim 35, Yamakawa teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein said golden clue test includes identifying a first-drawn portion of said hand drawn entry, determining the existence of a vertex in said first drawn portion of said hand drawn entry, and calculating the vertex angle (FIG. 1(b) and FIG. 4).

Regarding claims 36-37, please refer back to claims 32-33 for further explanation.

Art Unit: 2623

For claim 38, please refer back to claim for the teaching of disclosed limitations. In addition, Yamakawa discloses the method further including a slice step of identifying three of said points that are adjacent and spaced apart greater than a minimum pixel length distance, constructing an angle defined by said three points, measuring the constructed angle, and reiterating said slice step in serial fashion with consecutive points of said hand drawn entry to include all said points of said hand drawn entry (FIG. 9).

Also to claim 39, Yamakawa also teaches the method further including the step of storing the angle measurement of a slice when it exceeds a predetermined angle threshold (column 8, lines 38-42).

Regarding claim 40, Yamakawa also teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries further including the step of reducing said predetermined angle threshold whenever said reiterated slice step yields and angular measurement less than said predetermined angle threshold (FIG. 7, lines 28-67).

For claim 41, Yamakawa discloses the method wherein if an angle measurement of a given slice step exceeds said predetermined angle threshold, and the angle measurement of the subsequent slice step is less than said predetermined angle threshold, a vertex is identified in the portion of said hand drawn entry containing said given slice step (column 7, lines 25-67).

Also to claim 42, Yamakawa also teaches the method wherein the step includes detecting and storing the first pen down location of said hand drawn entry (FIG. 7 and FIG. 8).

For claim 43, Yamakawa further teaches the step of detecting and storing the direction of the pen stroke of said hand drawn entry (column 8, lines 35-42).

Art Unit: 2623

Regarding claim 48, Yamakawa further teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein said results of said at least one step include numerical parameters that correspond to characteristics of said hand drawn entry, said numerical parameters being compared to a stored magic number values (column 9, lines 35 – lines 55).

For claim 49, please refer back to claim 5 for the explanation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

15. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

16. Claims 8, 15-23, 26, 50, and 95-96 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Yamakawa U.S. Patent No. 6,144,764 and Capps U.S. Patent No. 5,583,542 as applied to claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 8, as discussed previously, Yamakawa teaches the analysis of single entity. However, Yamakawa does not teach the lines being agglomerated (close proximity). Capps teaches the hand drawn recognition process wherein the object being agglomerated (close proximity) (FIG. 4, elements 114-116). Capps teaches an input stroke is a gather of series of straight line segments and this is used to detected the proximity (approximate) the single input/entity (the curved path of the inputted stroke). This is clearly further teaches by Capps at column 9, lines 60-67. Modifying Yamakawa's method of hand drawn recognition process according to Capps would able to further determine the overlap region of the hand drawn characters by using the agglomeration technique. This would improve processing and therefore,

Art Unit: 2623

it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to modify Yamakawa according to Capps.

For claim 15, Yamakawa does not teach the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein said step of measuring the size includes the step of generating a minimum bounding rectangle to circumscribe the hand drawn entry. Capps teaches this concept (FIG. 14, element 314). Modifying Yamakawa's method of hand drawn recognition process according to Capps would be able to further decompose the object into smaller objects for further overlapping analysis. This would improve processing and therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to modify Yamakawa according to Capps.

Regarding claim 16, Capps further teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries further including the step of determining the size of said bounding rectangle, and comparing said size to size rules for at least one identifiable shape (column 2, lines 35-50).

For claim 17, please refer back to claim 15 for the explanation.

For claim 18, Yamakawa teaches the method for comparing the coincidence of said points (similarity measurement) of said hand drawn entry with a wide pen stroke defining at least one identifiable geometric shape (column 8, 43-67 and FIG. 20). Please refer back to claim 15 for the teaching of bounding rectangle concept and its motivation.

Regarding claim 19, Yamakawa does not teach the concept of pen stroke is selected to be a predetermined width and further including the step of adaptively altering said predetermined wide pen stroke width. However, Capps teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein pen stroke is selected to be a predetermined width, and further including the step of adaptively altering (merging process) said predetermined pen stroke width (predetermined

Art Unit: 2623

threshold length) (column 10, lines 6-21). Modifying Yamakawa's method of hand drawn recognition process according to Capps would be able to alter the predetermine pen stroke to generate the appropriate pen stroke width. This would improve processing and therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to modify Yamakawa according to Capps.

For claim 20, Capps further teaches a method for recognizing hand drawn entries wherein the identifiable geometric shape yielding a degree of coincidence greater than a predetermined coincidence threshold is determined to be the shape of said hand drawn entry (column 11, lines 15-26).

For claim 21, Capps also teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries further including the step of adaptively altering said coincidence threshold (predetermined threshold amplitude variation).

Referring to claim 22, please refer back to claim 13 for the explanation.

For claim 23, Capps discloses the method for programming an electronic device including the step of drawing at least one arrow from an attribute shown in an info window to at least one identified shape outside said info window (FIG. 3A – 3E).

Regarding claim 26, Capps further teaches the method for recognizing hand drawn entries further including the step of determining the proximity of said hand drawn entry to another graphic object (FIG. 4, elements 114-116). Also, please refer back to claims 6, 14, and 25 for the same explanation with regard to the excluding identification of shapes that do not conform to said set of rules regarding maximum proximate distance to said another graphic object.

Art Unit: 2623

Regarding claim 50, Yamakawa does not teach the concept wherein magic number values can be selectively varied by user input. Capps teaches the concept where numeric information can be entered into the pen-based computer system. Modifying Yamakawa's method of hand drawn recognition process according to Capps would be able to the user to enter numerical values through the user input mean. This would improve processing and therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to modify Yamakawa according to Capps.

Regarding claim 95, please refer back to claim 23 for the explanation.

Regarding claim 96, Capp also teaches the predetermined angle threshold is determined by a user-defined parameter (column 14, lines 3-33 and column 1, lines 47-49).

17. Claims 44-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Yamakawa U.S. Patent No. 6,144,764 and Meeks U.S. Patent No. 5,347,589 as applied to claim 1 above.

Referring to claim 44, Yamakawa does not explicitly teaches the step of measuring the speed of drawing said hand drawn entry. However Meeks teaches this limitation (FIG. 1 element 14). Modifying Yamakawa's method of hand drawn recognition process according to Meeks would be able calculate the speed of hand drawn. This would improve processing and therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to modify Yamakawa according to Meeks.

Referring to claim 45, Meeks teaches the detecting point-to-point spacing said sequential points of said hand drawing entry (FIG. 3B).

Art Unit: 2623

For claim 46, Meeks teaches the method wherein said speed of drawing is determined by recording the time of entry of each of said sequential points, and calculating the speed of drawing from said time of entry data (FIG. 1, element 14 and column 4, lines 55-61).

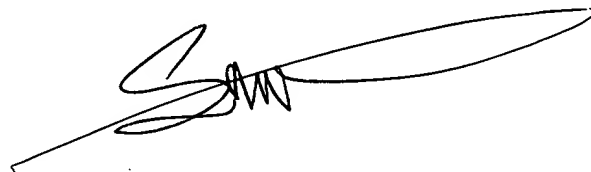
CONCLUSION

18. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Q Le whose telephone number is 703-305-5083. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 A.M - 5:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on 703-308-6604. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to TC Customer Service whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

BL
June 7, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SAMIR AHMED', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**SAMIR AHMED
PRIMARY EXAMINER**